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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 30, 2002  
By Michelle Chan  
Michelle Chan

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PATENT  
100/00341  
N.E.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

J. WALLACE PARCE et al.

Application No.: 09/721,508

Filed: November 22, 2000

For: HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING  
ASSAY SYSTEMS IN MICROSCALE  
FLUIDIC DEVICES

Examiner: Tran

Art Unit: 1641

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based upon the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 38, line 4 with the following:

N.E.  
In operation, test compounds in discrete subject material regions, are serially introduced into the device, separated as described above, and flowed along the transverse sample injection channel **304** until the separate subject material regions are adjacent the intersection of the sample channel **304** with the parallel reaction channels **310-324**. As shown in FIGS. 4A-4F, the test compounds are optionally provided immobilized on individual beads. In those cases where the test compounds are immobilized on beads, the parallel channels are optionally fabricated to include bead resting wells **326-338** at the intersection of the reaction channels with the sample injection channel **304**. Arrows **340** in Figure 4A indicate the net fluid flow during this type of sample/bead injection. As individual beads settle into a resting well, fluid flow through